

## NAVAL BATTLE NOW RAGING?

### Rojstvensky Sails Into Korean Straits, But Tokio Does Not Deign to Tell What Happened When Fleets Met.

There is no longer any question that the Russian war fleet under command of Vice Admiral Rojstvensky has entered the Straits of Korea on the final stage of its long journey from the Baltic sea, whence it sailed in October last, for its substituted destination, Vladivostok, its original objective port. Port Arthur, having meanwhile fallen into the hands of the Japanese. Beyond the fact that the Russians were yesterday in the vicinity of the Tsu Islands, all is conjecture. Apparently the only avenues of news transmission are held by the Japanese and the authorities of that country are exercising a rigorous censorship.

The paucity of information which the censor has permitted to pass has formed the basis for the belief in high quarters about St. Petersburg that an engagement has been fought and that the Japanese have suffered a defeat, the theory being that were the facts otherwise they would have been immediately given to the world. At all events, the course taken by Rojstvensky's fleet, through the narrow waters eastward of Korea may be accepted as evidence that he is bent on forcing Togo to accept battle, the alternative being the bombardment of Japanese ports and the sweeping of the Japanese merchant marine from those waters.

## ST. PETERSBURGERS ARE CELEBRATING

### They Assume That Lack of News From Tokio Means Defeat of Togo's Squadron.

#### PEOPLE BECOMING OPTIMISTIC

Have Confidence in Rojstvensky's Ability to "Turn the Trick"—Vladivostok Cruisers Go Out to Help Squadron From the Baltic Sea—Jubilant May Be Premature.

(By Associated Press.)  
ST. PETERSBURG, May 28.—1:50 a. m.—The Russian foreign office and the admiralty thus far has been entirely dependent upon the Associated Press dispatches from Tokio for news concerning the movements of the warships in the Korean Strait, and up to midnight were in receipt of no telegrams from the Russian fleet. The Associated Press is able to announce that the Vladivostok cruisers have left that port and are now setting in general co-operation with Vice Admiral Rojstvensky under plans prepared for the present emergency. Captain Broussikoff, who is well known in the United States, commands the armored cruiser Gromoboi.

Arouses Enthusiasm.  
Vice Admiral Rojstvensky's success in reaching the Korean Straits, the gateway to Vladivostok, has aroused something like genuine enthusiasm. The showy Russian capital, on the banks of the Neva, arrayed in gala attire and illuminated in honor of the anniversary of the coronation of Emperor Nicholas, seemed in fate for the occasion. For once St. Petersburg was not pessimistic. A report current that Rojstvensky has defeated Togo was accepted as true and in the streets the Russian admiral's name was on every lip. In the cafes and gardens he was touted as the hero of the hour.

Yet, in reality St. Petersburg had only Tokio's advice, but perhaps for once the Russian people, so easily prey to despair, might be pardoned for their premature jubilation after the unbroken series of reverses suffered on sea and land.

Breathlessly Await News.  
The authorities, however, while elated over the news indulged in no unwarranted rejoicing, but instead awaited almost breathlessly for further news. The lights in the admiralty office burned far into the night, and the fact that no further dispatch had arrived from Tokio, where alone the secret of the real situation is known, was considered as reassuring.

Admiral Wronski, chief of the general staff of the navy said to the Associated Press:  
"If Rojstvensky has cleared the Korean Straits, God bless him, he had open water ahead. If he has suc-

ceeded in mystifying the enemy and entered the sea of Japan with his force unimpaired he has earned the title of master of naval strategy."

Captain von Essen, of Port Arthur fame and one of the most capable of Russian naval officers, is one of those who believes that Rojstvensky's arrival in the Korean Straits is not an affair of mystification, but is due to the relative strength of the fleets.

He will reach Vladivostok. He expressed to the Associated Press the utmost confidence that Rojstvensky would reach Vladivostok without fighting a decisive battle, Togo's fleet being too weak, he believed, to meet that of Russia in open battle.

## UNION MEN FIGHTING AMONG THEMSELVES

### Action of Building Trades in Withdrawing Financial Support Angers Teamsters' Union.

#### OVERSTEPPED ITS JURISDICTION

Stand Said to Have Been Taken Because Drivers Overstepped Jurisdiction in Regard to Handling Safes and Vaults—President Shea Makes Threat—Alleged Sluggers Arrested.

(By Associated Press.)  
CHICAGO, ILL., May 27.—While numerous small riots were in progress today, both in the downtown streets and at the lumber yards, the leaders of the teamsters strike and the officers of the Building Trades were engaged in quarrels of their own.

The action of the Building Trades last night in withdrawing from the teamsters their financial and moral support angered the teamsters, and the latter lost no time today in calling on the representatives of the Building Trades and demanding why they meant by "going back" on the teamsters in the thick of the fight. It was made plain to the teamsters that in the opinion of the Building Trades, the drivers had overstepped their jurisdiction in causing members of their union to do constructive work. The particular cause of complaint was that the teamsters employed in handling safes and vaults had placed the safes in buildings.

Belongs to Builders.  
This part of the work, the Building Trades contend, belongs to the builders.

President Shea, of the Teamsters' Union, declared that he would call out every safe mover and machinery rigger in Chicago by Monday morning and stop work on all buildings where the members of the Building Trades are employed.

No attention was paid to this threat by the Building Trades representatives, and finally a committee of teamsters was appointed to confer with the Building Trades over the question of jurisdiction.

Has Reached Danger Point.  
Charles Dold, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, today said: "Organized labor has reached the danger point in this strike. I do not mean that the strike must be called off, but that for the sake of the unions, as well as for the sake of the business interests of Chicago, it should come to an end."

There were numerous fights between police and strike sympathizers in all parts of the city today. Most of the scrimmages, however, occurred in the lumber yards. Twelve strikers were arrested charged with assault. Police Inspector Layton today arrested Nicholas Reichart, James Collins, John H. Jucherty, "Shoulders" Wahl, on the charge of conspiring to slug F. H. Jones, barn steward of the Wells Fargo Express Company, and W. E. Ellis, superintendent of the city delivery department of the same company. Reichart confessed his share in the case and his statements resulted in the arrest of the other three.

Shea is Thrown Out.  
The general executive board of the Teamsters' Union has taken the management of the strike out of the hands of President Shea and it will be managed hereafter by the members of the executive board and the local strike committee. After assuming control of the strike the executive board issued a statement, which says:  
"We believe the strike should be confined to Chicago and to as few men in Chicago as possible. We are opposed to spreading the strike to any workmen except teamsters."

vensky's fleet sank an American steamer off Formosa about May 21. The name of the steamer is unknown. Her crew was saved.

Polish Socialists Radical.  
(By Associated Press.)  
WARSAW, May 27.—The Polish Socialist party has issued a manifesto urging the people to ransack and destroy everything and everybody not belonging to the societies and those refusing to join the movement.

## PHILADELPHIA GANG THROWS UP HANDS

### Peerless Leader of Republican Organization Bows to Public Opinion and Gives up Game

#### GAS PROPOSITION WITHDRAWN

Signal Victory For Mayor Weaver, But the Injunction Proceedings Are Yet to Be Taken Up—Members of Council Were Beginning to Desert Their Leaders—Grounds For Withdrawal.

(By Associated Press.)  
PHILADELPHIA, PA., May 27.—After a contest lasting five days the Republican "organization," led by Insurance Commissioner Israel W. Durham, was forced today by public opinion and clamor to abandon its efforts to extend the lease of the city gas works to the United Gas Improvement Company for 75 years. Thomas Dolan, president of the company, today forwarded a formal letter to the presidents of the select and common branches of city councils, withdrawing his proposition to advance the city \$25,000,000, in consideration of the extension of the lease, which the company now holds. This action was taken after a protracted conference with Commissioner Durham, State Senator McNichol and Select Councilman Charles Segar, who presented the gas lease resolutions in council.

Signal Victory For Weaver.  
The withdrawal of the United Gas Improvement Company's offer is undoubtedly a signal victory for Mayor Weaver in his fight with the "organization," though it does not mean the end of the battle. The injunction proceedings brought by David Smyth, former director of public safety, and Peter T. Costello, former director of public works, against Mayor Weaver and their successors, Colonel Sheldon Potter, and A. Lincoln Acker, to restrain the mayor's appointees from conducting the affairs of the two departments, is still to come up for argument, and the leaders will make a determined effort to have the temporary injunction made permanent.

Since last Tuesday, when the mayor created the first sensation by ousting Directors Smyth and Costello and appointing their successors, great pressure has been brought to bear upon the councilmen by both sides and the "organization" leaders have steadily maintained confidence in their ability to have the gas lease pass over the mayor's veto.

Deserted the "Gang" Leaders.  
Popular opposition became so pronounced, however, that one by one members of the councils who originally voted for the lease began to show a disposition to accede to the wishes of their constituents and today with almost a week intervening before the lease should come up for final action, the mayor required only seven votes in select council and ten in common council to sustain his veto. It became evident that the leaders were losing control of councils, but they were saved from putting their strength to the direct test, when the United Gas Improvement Company withdrew its bid.

Commissioner Durham, State Senator McNichol and Councilman Segar held a two hours' conference with President Dolan with the result that the company officially assumed the responsibility of withdrawing the lease. Mr. Dolan's Letter.  
Mr. Dolan's letter to the council states that the modifications of the original lease bill, reducing the price of gas were not in accord with the offer of the company, but that they would have been accepted. Owing to the opposition on the part of the people, however, Mr. Dolan's letter stated the

## TORNADO DOES MUCH DAMAGE

### Indian Territory and Texas Towns in Storm King's Path; Houses Blown Down and Crops Ruined; Few Persons Hurt.

(By Associated Press.)  
DENISON, TEXAS, May 27.—The towns of Platter, Woolville, Call, Roberta and Colbert, on the Frisco railroad, in Indian Territory, were visited by a tornado early today. Only meagre advices are procurable owing to communication being cut off. It is reported that nearly every house in Platter was blown down, one man so badly hurt that he is not expected to live and others injured. The depot was badly damaged. The storm cut a swath through the timber two hundred yards wide. The other towns named suffered injuries, but the force of the storm was spent when they were reached.

From Anadarko, Oklahoma, it is reported that a terrific storm struck Caddo county, wrecking many houses. Rock Island tracks are washed out and the large steel bridge recently built by the government near Mountain View is in danger of going. It is anchored by ropes. A section foreman near Raullett is spending the night in a tree caught between washouts.

The Bone Brake-Railback hardware store at Mountain View was damaged to the extent of \$10,000. Hundreds of acres of crops have been destroyed. A tornado struck three miles west of Cement, Oklahoma, causing great loss, but no lives were reported lost.

## CHILEAN WARSHIP TO DAVY JONES' LOCKER

Presidente Pinto Founders Off the Southern Coast of South American Republic.  
CAPTAIN COMMITS SUICIDE  
Preferred Death at Own Hands to Drowning—Vessel Built in France in 1892—Carried a Crew of 171 Officers and Men—Speed of Nineteen Knots. Her Armament Was Light.

(By Associated Press.)  
SANTIAGO DE CHILE, CHILE, May 27.—The Chilean cruiser Presidente Pinto has foundered in the Gulf of Ancud, north of the Island of Chiloe, off the southern part of the coast of Chile.

Captain Whitehead, when he saw that his ship was lost, shot himself. The Presidente Pinto carried a crew of 171 officers and men. She was built in France in 1892 and was constructed of steel with copper sheathing. Her speed was about 19 knots. She was 268 feet long and her armament consisted of four 6-inch guns, two 5-inch guns and ten smaller rapid fire guns. She had three torpedo tubes.

## MONTAGUE IN THE STATE CAPITAL

Academy of Music Packed—Hundreds Unable to Gain Admission—Reviewed Senator Martin's Record.

(Special to the Daily Press.)  
RICHMOND, VA., May 27.—Governor Montague spoke here tonight in the Academy of Music to an audience which densely packed the spacious building. Hundreds were unable to gain admission. The governor's speech was a lively review of the record of United States Senator Thomas S. Martin, to succeed whom he is a candidate. On the stage with the governor tonight were 350 business men of Richmond and Manchester.

In the audience were many others, but a considerable proportion of his hearers was made up of the fair sex, who applauded his every utterance.

Russians Come to Time.  
(By Associated Press.)  
ST. PETERSBURG, May 27.—The council of the empire has approved the recommendations of the passport commission which include universal recognition of foreign passports, thus meeting the representations of the United States on the subject of discrimination against American Jews.